

agencies to prepare regulations and says, what will be the cost to Nebraska business and what in turn will be the cost to Nebraska consumers? This does not set up a consumer agency that takes a look at what comes out of it. Heavens, far from it. It takes a look at whether or not we're increasing the powers or responsibilities of a particular state agency or local government and then it says, if you increase the powers of agency X to regulate a certain type of business, what will really be the cost to that business and will really be the cost then to consumers. Let me give you an example. OSHA is probably the worst word you can mention to many people because it seemed to emphasize things that had very little to do with health and safety. Now all of my bulk, the people that have small petroleum bulk plants in my district, under the first go around under OSHA would have been put out of business and it would have had apparently no effect upon the health or safety of the operator or the people that bought the petroleum. Now if we'd had something like this at the federal level to take a look at the responsibilities being given under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, perhaps they wouldn't have given the powers to that federal agency that they did. If we had given certain limitations to our State Department of Health, perhaps they wouldn't have provided some of the regulations that now are affecting some of our hospitals. True, most of them are federal but some are state.

SENATOR KREMER: Then, Senator Bereuter, you are telling this body that this would affect, have an impact then on the consumer, on the business only if it broadens or lessens the power of a state agency. Is this right?

SENATOR BEREUTER: That is correct. That's exactly correct. It increases or otherwise alters.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Would you want to close on your motion, Senator Bereuter?

SENATOR BEREUTER: Yes, Mr. President, if I could have the attention of the body. The whole bill as far as the comments and questions that have been raised, comes down to the language on page two, lines four through seven. If you'll take a careful look at those. This sets out the limit of the fiscal impact, excuse me, of the Business/Consumer Impact Statement. It says, that these types of statements shall be prepared only on legislation introduced which increases or otherwise alters the powers or responsibilities of a state agency or local governmental unit and that is why it has a relatively small number of bills that are affected by this legislation. Now, Senator Kahle, if you'll turn over to the pink Fiscal Note, you will find the second paragraph saying the following: "Current resources could be utilized to meet the additional work load required by this legislation based upon an anticipated work load, however if actual work load is greater than anticipated additional resources may be needed to comply with all information required." They prepared that before I showed them the list of the bills that would have been covered from the last session. Approximately one in eight. We do a great many things in this body that have an impact on all sizes of business, farmers and ranchers, and on consumers, but almost all of what we do is not done by increasing the power of a state agency or local government. It's being done by things like